

*Stated Meeting, August 15.*

Present, nineteen members.

DR. FRANKLIN BACHE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were received and read:—

From the Royal Society of Sciences of Copenhagen, dated Copenhagen, 9th April, 1844, transmitting donations, and acknowledging the receipt of Transactions and Proceedings of the Society:—

From the Holland Society of Sciences at Harlem, dated Harlem, 21st November, 1842, accompanying a donation, and acknowledging the receipt of Transactions of this Society.

An extract of a letter from the Prince of Canino and Musignano, to the Librarian, was read, dated Rome, 12th July, 1845, expressing his acknowledgments to the Society for the honour conferred upon him, in having been chosen as the representative of the Society at the Seventh Congress of the Italian Association, to be held at Naples in September next.

Letters were further received and read:—

From Mr. Irwin, Minister from the United States at Copenhagen, dated Copenhagen, 1st December, 1844, announcing the transmission of a donation from Prof. Abrahams, of the University of Copenhagen: and,—

From Mr. John B. Sartori, dated Leghorn, 29th April, 1845, on transmitting a piece of what he terms "Fixed Mercury," the secret of which he possesses, and suggesting to the Society the propriety of encouraging the operation, which, he thinks, may be an object of very great importance to the Mint of the United States to possess; and offering to dispose of the secret to the Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Det Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskabs Naturvidenskabelige og Mathematisk Afhandling. Tiende Deel. Copenhagen, 1843. 4to.—*From the Royal Society of Sciences of Copenhagen.*

- Oversigt over det Kgl. Danske Videnskabernes Selskabs Forhandlinger og dets Medlemmers Arbejder i Aaret, 1843. Copenhagen, 1844. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- Natuurkundige Verhandelingen van de Hollandsche Maatschappij der Wetenschappen te Haarlem. Tweede verzameling. 2<sup>e</sup> Deel. 3<sup>e</sup> Deel, 1<sup>e</sup> Stuk. Haarlem, 1842—1844. 4to.—*From the Hollandish Society of Sciences.*
- Transactions of the American Ethnological Society. Vol. I. New York, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Society.*
- The African Repository and Colonial Journal. Vol. XXI. August, 1845. No. 8. 8vo.—*From the American Colonization Society.*
- Journal of the Franklin Institute. Aug. 1845. No. 2. 8vo.—*From Dr. R. M. Patterson.*
- The Medical News and Library. Vol. III. Aug. 1845. No. 32. 8vo.—*From Messrs. Lea & Blanchard.*
- Description des Manuscrits Français du Moyen Age de la Bibliothèque Royale de Copenhague, précédée d'une Notice Historique sur cette Bibliothèque. Par N. C. J. Abrahams. Copenhague, 1844. 4to.—*From the Author.*
- Moïse de Khorène auteur du V<sup>e</sup> Siècle. Histoire d'Armenie. Texte Arménien, et Traduction Française par P. E. Le Vaillant de Florival. Venesè, 1841. Two Vols. in One. 8vo.—*From John P. Brown, Esq.*
- Considerations respecting the Recognition of Friends in another World: on the Affirmed Descent of Jesus Christ into Hell: on Phrenology in connexion with the Soul, and of the Existence of a Soul in Brutes. By John Redman Coxe, M.D. Philadelphia, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- An English and Chinese Vocabulary, in the Court Dialect. By S. Wells Williams. Macao, 1844. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- An Anglo-chinese Calendar for the Year 1844, corresponding to the Year of the Chinese Cycle Era 4481, or the 41st Year of the 75th Cycle of Sixty; being the 24th Year of the Reign of Taikwang. Macao, 1844. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- The Treaty of Nanking, signed Aug. 29, 1842: and the Supplementary Treaty, signed Oct. 8, 1843. In the Chinese and English Languages. Macao, 1844. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- A List of the Plants growing spontaneously in the Vicinity of Quincy, Florida. By A. W. Chapman, M.D. From the Western

Journal of Medicine and Surgery. Vol. III. No. 6. New Series.—*From C. W. Short, M.D. of Louisville.*

Perpetual Calendar, Civil and Ecclesiastical, freed from Dominical Letters, Solar Cycle, Golden Numbers, Extended Tables of Epacts and Algebraic Formulæ. By William M'Ilvaine. Burlington, N. J. 1844. Six Copies.—*From the Author.*

Atlas von 19 Zeichnungs Tafeln zur Darstellung der Baltimore-Ohio Eisenbahn untersucht von Carl Ghega, Doctor der Mathematik Auf seiner Reise in den Vereinigten Staaten von Nord America. 1844. Folio.—*From the Author.*

ADDITION TO THE LIBRARY BY PURCHASE.

Astronomische Nachrichten. Nos. 538 to 541. Title and Index to Vol. XXII. 4to.

DONATION TO THE CABINET.

A Specimen of Metal, said to be Fixed Mercury, but which proved to be Spelter.—*From John B. Sartori, Esq., of Leghorn.*

The Committee appointed on Mr. Hamilton's paper on the Prevailing Winds observed at Fort Union, Upper Missouri: the Committee appointed on Mr. Gillis's paper on Barometric and Thermometric Means, &c.: and the Committee appointed 18th August, 1843, on Mr. Lea's paper on Shells, were, on motion, discharged.

The list of the Committees on obituary notices was read.

Dr. Patterson announced the death of Mr. Joseph Cloud, long a member of this Society, in his 75th year.

On motion, Mr. Eckfeldt was appointed to prepare an obituary notice of Mr. Cloud.

Mr. M'Ilvaine made a communication upon the subject of the calendar presented by him to the Society this evening, entitled, "Memoir Explanatory of a Perpetual Calendar, Civil and Ecclesiastic, freed from Dominical Letters, Solar Cycle, Golden Numbers, Extended Tables of Epacts, and Algebraic Formulæ;" which was referred to a Committee, consisting of Dr. Patterson, Professor Frazer, and Mr. Walker.

A communication was read from Mr. Charles Miner, on the subject of the progressive advancement of the Rocky Mountain Swallow into this State and elsewhere, and suggesting in-

quiries to trace the progress and annual advance of the bird, its brumal retreat, &c.

Mr. Ord stated, that the bird referred to by Mr. Miner had been known for years, and had been described and figured in the Prince of Canino's additions to Wilson, as well as in Mr. Audubon's works. It has been seen for many years at Lambertsville, on the Delaware, where it annually breeds, and has been gradually advancing eastward from the Missouri.

Mr. Trego referred to cases in which the bird had been seen in various parts of Eastern Pennsylvania; and at Bellefonte, in the central part of the State, in great numbers.

Dr. Patterson called attention to a work on the Trigonometrical Survey of India, commenced by Lieut. Col. Lambton, and continued by Col. Everest, and gave a detailed account of the same, explaining the mode in which the survey had been accomplished. Col. Everest is now on a visit to this country, and had sent the work laid before the Society by Dr. P. by Assistant Surgeon E. K. Kane, of the Navy, who had recently returned from the east.

The allusion to Dr. Kane gave occasion to the reading of an extract of a letter from him to Mr. J. K. Kane, dated at Thebes, May, 1845, in which he refers to his own observations in the Nile Valley, but especially to the ardent and important labours of Dr. Lepsius, now occupied in archaical investigations there.

Mr. Eckfeldt stated, that he had examined the specimen sent to the Society by Mr. Sartori, and could not observe a trace of mercury. He considered it to be zinc, containing small quantities of lead and other metals. Its specific gravity was 7.05.

On motion, the Committee on Finance were discharged from the further consideration of a letter from Mr. Smith, on the subject of taxes on the Museum property, referred to them on 15th December, 1843.

On motion, the Librarian was discharged from the further consideration of the subject of the instruments lent to the late Mr. Hassler, referred to him 15th December, 1843.

On motion, the Committee appointed to take charge of the

interests of the Society involved in a claim asserted by the City Councils, were excused from reporting thereon until further ordered.

On motion of Dr. Patterson, the Corresponding Secretary was directed to return an answer to the letter of Mr. Sartori.